MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

NORTH RIVER

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

BETHABARA BAPTIST CHURCH,

FAYETTE CO., ALA.,

Commencing September 25, 1884.

SELMA, ALA.:
FROM THE PRESS OF THE SELMA PRINTING COMPANY.
1884.

MINUTES.

BETHABARA CHURCH, FAYETTE COUNTY, ALA.,
THURSDAY, September 25, 1884.

1. The North River Baptist Association met pursuant to adjournment, on Thursday, September 25, 1884, for the purpose of holding its 50th annual session, at 11:30 A. M. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder W. P. Smith, from Luke 24: 46, 47. And said unto them thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day; and that repentance and remission of sin should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

2. On motion, the Association adjourned till 2:15 P. M., after which it was called to order by Elder J. W. Rogers, the former Clerk, who presided as Moderator pro tem, and Wm. Randolph, Clerk pro tem.

3. The names of the churches were called and the letters were laid on the table. Brethren Elder J. W. Stewart and R. H. Smith were appointed to read a list of the churches, with the names of the delegates from each. Names of ordained ministers in small capitals, absentees marked thus *

Providence—Elder J. R. SARTAIN, J. C. Appling, J. B. Sumner, William Cobb, Jr.
Mount Joy—H. G. Amerson, B. M. Kimbrel, J. D. Pitman.
Antioch—J. H. Robison, T. B. Hyche, R. L. Jones,* J. B. Sherer.*
Samaria—D. H. Clifton, J. W. Garner, R. H. Smith, W. J. Copeland.
Spring Hill—A. G. Lawson, W. M. Tipper,* Robert Downey.
Freewill—John Butler,* T. P. Vandever, Benjamin Quinn.
Mount Olive—M. D. L. Sanders, J. M. Morgan, J. L. Sanders.*
Liberty Grove—A. A. Sides, A. Keeton,* J. M. Sides, C. M. D. Wilson.
New River—Elder A. A. SMITH, Stephen Woodard, J. D. Sherer.
Hopewell—Elder A. WHITE, Wm. Vines, J. M. Snow.
Bethany—John King,* Peter Burton,* P. C. Pike.
Bethlehem—Elder L. B. HARBIN, J. F. McDuff, F. B. Appling,* J. C. Baker.*
Hephzibah—John B. Sides, Z. H. Staggs, John Staggs.
Pleasant Field—James Q. Odon,* J. T. Grace, James L. Leonard.*
Zion—R. N. Waldrop, J. T. Busby, Wm. Chapel.
Jasper—Elder WM. RANDOLPH, W. B. Appling,* T. P. Lampkin.
Macedonia—Elder J. L. GILDER, T. C. Omary, B. D. Kelley.
Bethabara—Elder J. W. ROGERS, Elder J. W. STEWART, W. B. Oakly.

New Prospect—Elder E. L. BROWN, Elder S. A. SMITH, W. H. Readmill.
Friendship, Walker County.—E. H. Tugle, Wm. Hyche.*
Lebanon—J. M. Thacker, Beryl Earnest, George Killgore.*
Oregonia—James H. Walton, J. D. Cox, George W. H. Harrison.
Bethel—James W. Wilcut,* O. G. Killgore, George Davis.*
Pleasant Grove, Fayette County—Elder E. T. AKIN, Elder R. COLBURN, S. H. Key.

4. Then went into the election of Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the choice of brethren, viz.: Elder J. W. Rogers, Moderator, and Wm. Randolph, Clerk, and R. H. Smith, Corresponding Secretary.

5. Called for the report of the committee on programme. The report was read and adopted.

6. Called for correspondence. Read correspondence from New River Association, Elders J. B. Ferguson and Josiah Shirley, messengers. Received correspondence from the Canaan Association by letter, but no delegation. Received correspondence from the Tuscaloosa Association by letter and delegation, B. C. Sumner, J. F. Appling and C. E. Rice messengers.

7. Returned correspondence to the Canaan Association, T. P. Lampkin, R. H. Smith, J. F. McDuff and M D. L. Sanders; Tuscaloosa Association, Elder L. B. Harbin, J. H. Walton and Elder Wm. Randolph; New River Association, Elder L. B. Harbin, B. M. Kimbrel, J. F. McDuff, Elder A. A. Smith and J. W. Rogers; Clear Creek Association, W. H. Readmill, Elders E. L. Brown, E. T. Akin and H. A. Key; Mud Creek Association, T. P. Vanderver, J. J. Butler and E. H. Tugle.

8. Ministers who were not delegated were invited to seats with the body.

9. Appointed the following committees:

(1) On Religious Exercises—T. P. Lampkin, J. H. Walton, H. G. Amerson and the deacons of Bethabara Church.
(2.) On Documents—J. McDuff, A. A. Sides and Wm. Cobb, Jr.
(3.) On Examinations—B. M. Kimbrel, J. C. Appling and M. D. L. Sanders.
(4.) On Finance—George W. H. Harrison, W. J. Copeland and W. H. Readmill.
(5.) On Deceased Ministers—J. W. Stewart, R. H. Smith and J. R. Sartain.
(6.) On Indigent Ministers—M. D. L. Sanders, D. H. Clifton and W. H. Readmill.
(7.) On Education—T. P. Lampkin, J. W. Stewart and H. G. Amerson.
(8.) On Prayer Meetings—R. H. Smith, J. D. Sherer and J. H. Robison.
(9.) On State Missions—L. B. Harbin, J. H. Walton and George W. H. Harrison.
(10.) On Home Missions—J. F. McDuff, R. H. Smith, J. R. Sartain.
(11.) On Foreign Missions—J. W. Stewart, L. B. Harbin, E. L. Brown.

10. Adjourned to meet Friday morning at 9 A. M.

11. Friday morning, 9 A. M. The Association was called to order. Prayer by the Moderator.

12. The letters from Pleasant Grove and Mount Zion were read and the delegates' names enrolled.

13. The report of district meetings was called for. The first district meeting will be held with Pleasant Grove Church, Walker county, Ala., to convene on Friday before the first Sabbath in September, 1885; Elder J. W. Rogers to preach the introductory sermon; Elder J. R. Sartain, alternate; Elder E. T. Akin to preach at 11 A. M. on Sabbath; Elder L. B. Harbin, alternate. Second district meeting to convene with Mount Olive Church, thirteen miles east of Jasper, on the Birmingham road, commencing on Saturday before the second Sabbath in September, 1885: Elder L. Williams to preach the introductory sermon; Elder Wm. Randolph, alternate; W. P. Smith to preach on Sabbath at 11 A. M.; H. A. Key, alternate.

14. Treasurer's Report:

Received from Finance Committee for minute fund	$34 00
Associational fund	26 85
Minute fund from former Clerk	15 45
Total	$75 30

15. Committee's report on Sabbath Schools:

We believe every church member may be, and ought to be, actively engaged in the vineyard of the Lord. The world is the field in which to work, and the work to be done is to impart to the world a knowledge of the holy Scriptures, and how can it be done more effectually than by teaching the young and rising generation the Word of God in the weekly Sunday School, on the Lord's day. Every member of the church may here find interesting and profitable work, and in instructing others instruct himself, or herself. We would earnestly urge upon our brethren the necessity of engaging, without delay, diligently and perseveringly in this important work. We find but thirteen Sunday Schools in the bounds of the North River Baptist Association.

R. H. SMITH, Chairman.

16. Report on Temperance:

In presenting our report on Temperance we grieve and rejoice with the same breath—grieve because the evil of intemperance is increasing; rejoice because the spirit of opposition to the curse is gradually gaining ground. We are glad to note that some of our churches are waking up, and engaging with zeal in the cause of prohibition, but much remains to be done yet. We have not yet fully realized our situation. There are $900,000,000 spent annually for drinks in the United States; nearly twice as much as is spent for bread by the entire population of the country. The people of the United States paid last year $5,500,000 for missions. Just think of it. For every six mites spent in the glorious cause of missions, one dollar is spent for liquor—nearly two hundred times as much spent for drink as is spent in giving the gospel to the perishing nations of the earth; three times as much paid for drink as is paid for shoes by all the people of the United States. Brethren, how long must we groan beneath such oppression? Let us cry to God in our grief, and endeavor to shake off the shackles that have bound us all these years. This report recommends every member of this Association to put forth his most earnest and prudent efforts to secure constitutional prohibition over all the territory possible; the work is going on; let us join the grand temperance army and put the monster from our midst, and then will peace flow like a river and prosperity will cover the land as the waters cover the seas.

J. W. STEWART, Chairman.

17. Committee's Report on State Missions:

We beg leave to report that we believe it best to continue to co-operate with the State Mission Board. We also recommend Rev. L. B. Harbin as the colporteur and evangelist of this Association. We also recommend that a public collection be taken up during the present session of this body to aid the State Board in its work. We also advise that a sub-committee be appointed of one in each church to agitate the cause of State Missions and take up a collection to aid the State Board in their work, and report the result of their work to a central committee to be appointed by this body.

L. B. HARBIN, Chairman.

Report of pledges from the several churches to employ a missionary to preach in the destitute portion of the North River Baptist Association:

Pleasant Grove	$10.00.	W. F. Sides
Providence	10.00.	Wm. Cobb, jr
Lebanon	5.00.	J. N. Thacker
Oregonia	10.00.	George H. Harrison
Bethabara	10.00.	N. H. Harbin
Zion	5.00.	R. N. Waldrop
Mount Joy	10.00.	B. M Kimbrel
Pleasant Field	2.50.	J. T. Grace
Bethlehem	10.00.	J. F. McDuff
Macedonia		C. C. Kelly
New River		Wm. Killingworth
Mount Zion	5.00.	N. J Patton
Bethel	2.00.	O. G. Killgore
Samaria	10.00.	R. H. Smith
Antioch		T. B. Hyche
Jasper	10.00.	W. B. Appling
New Prospect		W. H. Readmill
Hephzibah		J. B. Sides
Bethany		John King
Pleasant Spring		L. M. Busby
Mount Carmel		W. G. Davis
Friendship	5.00.	Wm. Hyche
Liberty Grove		A. A. Sides
Union		Wm. P. Smith
Mount Olive		James M. Morgan
Spring Hill		R. Downey
New Hope		W. J. Bagwell
Pleasant Grove		R. Colburn

18. Committee's Report on Home Missions:

Never in all its history have the labors of the Home Mission Board been more effective in the promotion of the Redeemer's kingdom than during the past year. There have been received into the churches to which they minister 2,665 by baptism and 1,525 by letter, making a total addition of 4,190. The work of the Board has never been better organized, nor, if the means were furnished it, has it ever been better prepared to push forward into unoccupied places, and to attempt new conquests for our King. The fields of its labors were never broader nor more inviting, nor the outlook for a grand work more promising. During the year there have been in its employ for the whole or part of the time 144 missionaries. Of these there have labored in

Alabama 2, Missouri 1, Florida 28, Texas 59, Louisiana 8, Tennessee 1, California 4, Indian Territory 19, Arkansas 12, Mississippi 1, Georgia 6, Virginia 3.

WORK OF THE YEAR.

Number of Missionaries	144	Total addition	4,190
Number of churches and stations	338	Sunday Schools	141
Weeks of labor	3,540	Teachers and pupils	5,387
Sermons and addresses	4,818	Miles traveled	139,929
Prayer meetings attended	2,779	Religious visits	20,512
Baptisms	2,665	Pages of tracts distributed	165,499
Received by letter	1,525		

The increase this year over last has been: In labors 50 per cent.; in weeks of labor 95; in sermons and addresses 150; in Sunday Schools 250; in teachers and pupils 100; in religious visits 100; in tracts distributed 100; in additions to churches 500; in baptisms 1,000.

DESTITUTE FIELDS.—GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS.

This body, lying in the northern part of the State, embraces a territory as large as the States of Georgia and Alabama, which is rapidly settling up with white people; it is estimated that not less than one hundred thousand people move into this district every year. Assuming that five hundred will be a sufficient number for a congregation, this emigration adds annually two hundred such congregations to the destitution already existing. The Board has been aiding this body by an appropriation of $3,750 the past year. In answer to their earnest appeals the Board has increased this appropriation the present year to $5,000. In his recent report to the General Association, Brother A. J. Holt, their Corresponding Secretary, says:

There is more recognized destitution now than there was last year. Our work has awakened the half sleeping Association to see how little they are doing and how much there is to do. Appeals for assistance are coming in from every quarter. Colonies of Swedes, Norwegians, Germans and other foreigners are filling up our west, and they bring along with them their skepticism, rationalism or Catholicism, and a foreign mission work is laid at our very doors.

In Louisiana, in proportion to population, the destitution is fully equal to that in Texas. Brother Landrum, our vice-president, writes there are twenty-five parishes without a Baptist preacher. Six hundred thousand souls in South Louisiana without the gospel! In New Orleans, with a population of 250,000, we have but two white churches. One of them is aided by this Board in buying its house of worship and supplying its pastor. The Board has purchased an eligible lot at the corner of Valance and Magazine streets, 90 by 130, on which to erect another house of worship. Of this Brother Landrum says: Now, when can we get the Valance street house? There are about forty members and a good Sunday School to go into it. Our Carrolton chapel is going ahead. We need another preacher right away; a good man would greatly help you in securing the new house. May the Board have help, and see the need here. I cannot stand this double work much longer; do send us a man; one more house and one more man, or our progress is arrested. In New Orleans four missionaries are at work, three of them ladies—Brother M. C. Cole, pastor of the First Church; Mrs. Nelson, supported by the Mississippi Convention; Miss Mattie Cole, supported by the ladies of South Carolina, and Miss Emma Gardner. These are noble women, and they are doing a grand work in that city. Of Baton Rouge, Brother Landrum says: Put a good woman there to collect a Sunday School, etc. Do finish the house there if practicable; only $500 needed.

R. H. SMITH, Chairman.

Committee's Report on Foreign Missions:

Pleasant Grove, $5.00; Providence, John R. Sartain, $1.00; Lebanon, A.

Killgore; Oregonia, $5.00, J. H. Walton; Bethabara, $5.00, N. H. Harbin; Pleasant Grove, Fayette county, R. Colburn; Zion, R. N. Waldrop; Mount Joy, R. A. Baker; Pleasant Field, J. L. Leonard; Bethlehem, J. F. McDuff, $5.00; Macedonia, $5.00, J. L. Gilder; New River, $5.00; Mount Zion, N. Thacker; Bethel, O. G. Killgore; Samaria, D. H. Clifton, $5.00; Antioch, T. B. Hyche; Jasper, Wm. Randolph, $15,00; New Prospect, L. P. Kiker; Hephzibah, J. B. Sides; Bethany, P. C. Pike; Hopewell, A. White; Pleasant Spring, L. M. Busby; Friendship, E. H. Tugle; Mount Carmel, W. G. Davis; Liberty Grove, C. M. D. Wilson; Freewill, T. P. Vanderver; Mount Olive, M. D. L. Sanders; Spring Hill, A. G. Lawson; New Hope, E. Bagwell.

T. P. LAMPKIN, Chairman.

Committee's Report on Education:

Your Committee submit the following report: The cause of education in the bounds of this Association, and the whole State, is steadily advancing; a fuller appreciation of its importance is obtaining a stronger hold on our people. Never before was the spirit of education more widely diffused, nor the sacrifices on the part of parents to secure to their children the advantages of a liberal education than at the present. We cannot impress the importance too strongly on the minds of our people of the education of our children, so that they may be able to fill our places with honor and distinction. The necessity for the education of the rising ministry is one that we must confess has not had due consideration heretofore by our people, but we thank God from the depths of our hearts that they have become aroused, and we trust that the spirit may continue to spread until our waste places may be filled with workmen of whom we need not be ashamed. Respectfully submitted,

T. P. LAMPKIN, Chairman.

Report on Deceased Ministers:

REV. DAVID MANASCO.

Since our last session we have been called around the bier of one of our most useful and beloved brethren, Rev. David Manasco. After several years of patient suffering with a disease of the throat, he welcomed the messenger of death on the 17th of last May, 1884. Brother Manasco was a man eminent for his power in presenting gospel truths; universally beloved for his deep piety—a Christian like whom many should desire to be—fearless in presenting the whole gospel truth, yet with such melting tenderness that he ever won the hearts of all who heard him. In him his family loses a devoted husband and father; the country a useful and worthy citizen; the church an able, earnest, eloquent preacher; this Association its esteemed Moderator; especially does the foreign mission cause lose a most ardent advocate. Let us sorrow not as those who have no hope, for while the hand of Providence seems hard upon us, we realize that our irreparable loss is his eternal gain, for for now he will rest from his labors, and his works will follow him. Let us bow in submission to the will of God, pray for the family of our dear brother, emulate his example and follow him as he followed Christ. Respectfully submitted,

J. W. STEWART, Chairman.

Committee's Report on Indigent Ministers:

Report Elder L. B. Harbin, Elder E. T. Akin and Elder George B. Tidwell. We recommend that this body take up a collection for the above named brethren before it adjourns to-day.

M. D. L. SANDERS, Chairman.

Committee's Report on Prayer Meetings:

As we are entirely dependent upon God for every mercy and supply of grace, and as the Lord's promises are so full and complete, and so boundless,

Christians should therefore be men and women of prayer. This is essential to their spiritual development and growth, and from the teachings of the Scriptures the fact is plainly set forth that it is the duty of churches and individuals to engage heartily in this work; we have but to look at the history of the churches to be convinced of the fact of the great blessings to be derived from prayer meetings. However, we do believe that it is the duty of every church and neighborhood to have a well ordered and well conducted prayer meeting; and we, your committee, do urge the prayerful consideration of this matter on the part of the brethren of our churches, and would suggest that hereafter the churches report to the session of the Association the state of the prayer meetings in their churches. Respectfully submitted,

R. H. Smith, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Documents:

We, your Committee on Documents, have examined all the documents handed to us, and ask leave to report the following:

We find two petitionary letters, one from Hopewell and one from Freewill church, asking letters of dismission from this body to join the Mud Creek Association. We recommend that letters be granted.

We also find a query from Bethabara Church asking if the North River Baptist Association should hold in its fellowship churches that retain members in their churches who habitually drink ardent spirits to excess. We advise that the Association should not retain churches that persist in such a course.

James F. McDuff, Chairman.

Committee's Report on Nominations:

Elder J. W. Stewart to preach the Introductory Sermon at 11 A. M., at the next session; H. A. Key, alternate. Elder Wm. P. Smith to preach the missionary sermon on Sabbath, at 11 A. M.; Elder L. B. Harbin, alternate. On a subject of his own choice, Elder Wm. Randolph to write the Circular Letter. We recommend that the Association appoint delegates to the Baptist State Convention, viz: T. P. Lampkin, James F. McDuff, R. H. Smith, Elder L. Williams, Elder J. W. Stewart, Elder J. W. Rogers, W. B. Appling and J. D. Pitman

B. M. Kimbrel, Chairman.

Committee's Report on Finance:

Received for Associational Fund	$26 85
Minute Fund	34 50
Total amount	$61 35

George W. H. Harrison, Chairman.

Executive Committee's Report:

Our souls are grieved to have to note the fact and report the death of our chairman, J. S. Steadman. For this cause I come forward to fill the place as chairman of said committee.

Received of Sister J. S. Steadman, Foreign Mission Fund	$34	75
Samaria Church	2	50
Jasper Church	5	00
Public collection	13	30
Rec'd of Sister J. S. Steadman for Home Missions	3	00
Samaria Church, " "	1	00
For State Missions—from Samaria Church	2	00
" " " public collection	10	60
Ministerial education, for Howard College	6	10
To aid in the erection of a monument over the grave of Brother David Manasco	8	00
Indigent ministers	9	30
To Brother Tedwell		55
Total	$96	10
Disbursement sent to foreign fields	34 75—	34 75
Balance on hand	$61	35

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

Sabbath collection for State Home and Foreign Missions	$14	10
By subscription	7	75

R. H. SMITH, Chairman.

Resolved, That we feel deeply grieved by the death of our beloved brother James S. Steadman.

COMMITTEES.

Committee on Aged and Infirm Ministers—J. F. McDuff, B. M. Kimbrel and E. H. Tugle.

Committee on Temperance—George W. H. Harrison, A. A. Smith and D. H. Clifton.

Committee on Education—J. W. Stewart, T. P. Lampkin and W. T. Rutledge.

Committee on Home Missions—Wm. Randolph, John Staggs and R. N. Waldrop.

Committee on State Missions—R. H. Smith, J. B. Sumner and A. G. Lawson.

Committee on Foreign Missions—T. P. Lampkin, E. L. Brown and J. I. Sides.

Committee on Sabbath Schools—L. B. Harbin, W. H. Readmill and H. H. Harbin.

Letters of dismission were granted to Hopewell and Freewill Churches.

Committee on Programme—R. H. Smith, T. P. Lampkin and W. T. Rutledge.

Resolved, That the associational funds be distributed among the indigent ministers of our Association.

Resolved, That the Clerk have nine hundred copies of minutes printed, and that he have $15.00 for his services.

Resolved, That this Association tender its thanks to the Bethabara and Mount Joy Churches, and the surrounding neighborhood for their kind entertainment during this session of the Association.

Resolved, That we, the members and delegates of this Association tender our heartfelt thanks to the Moderator and Clerk for the able manner in which they have discharged their duties.

J. W. ROGERS, Moderator.

WM. RANDOLPH, Clerk.

DECLARATION OF FAITH.

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1. On the Scriptures—we believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions shall be tried.

2. Of the true God—that there is one true and living God, whose name is Jehovah, the maker and Supreme Ruler of Heaven and earth, inexpressibly glorious in holiness; worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; revealed under the personal and relative distinction of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

3. Of the fall of man—that man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but by choice, being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God; wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan, and of their own sinful passions, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence or excuse.

4. Of the way of salvation—that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the law by his personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by his death; being risen from the dead he is enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate and all sufficient Savior.

5. Of justification—that the great Gospel blessing which Christ of his fullness bestows on such as believe in him is justification; that justification consists in the pardon of sin and the promise of eternal life, on principles of righteousness; that it is not bestowed in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through its own redemption and righteousness that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

6. Of the freeness of salvation—that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ, which refusal will submit him to an aggravated condemnation.

7. Of grace in regeneration—that in order to be saved, we must be regenerated and born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind, and is effected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation

by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience found in the holy fruit which we bring forth to the glory of God.

8. Of God's purpose of grace—that election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the moral agency of man it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it is ascertained by its effects in all who believe the Gospel; it is the foundation of Christian assurance, and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

9. Of the perseverance of saints—that such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare, and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

10. Harmony of the law and Gospel—that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just and good, and the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which and restore them through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of his visible church.

11. Of the Gospel church—that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by his laws and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by his Word; that its only proper officers are bishops or pastors and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

12. Of baptism and the Lord's Supper—that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit, to show forth in solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in a crucified, buried and risen Savior; that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation and the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self-examination.

13. Of the Christian Sabbath—that the first day of the week is the Lord's day or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and recreation; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for the rest which remaineth for the people of God.

14. Of civil government—that civil government is of Divine appointment, for the interest and good of human society, and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except in things opposed to the will of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of conscience and the Prince of the kings of the earth.

15. Of the righteous and wicked—that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such as only through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in his sight wicked and under the curse, and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

16. Of the world to come—that the end of this world is approaching, and that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy, and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men, in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. But one person shall speak at a time, and he shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator.
3. No member shall be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the question or use words of personal reflection.
4. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except withdrawn by him who made it.
5. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another is offered.
6. When any question is taken up by the Association, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall take the question by yeas and nays, or otherwise, and the decision thus made shall be announced by the moderator immediately.
7. No person shall depart from the service of the Association without leave of the Moderator.
8. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave obtained.
9. The appellation of brother shall be used in our address one to another.
10. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege as any other member, provided he appoints some other member to his seat while speaking or otherwise, but shall not vote unless the Association be equally divided.
11. Any member violating the above rules may be reproved as the Association may think proper, only on the day the offence shall have occurred

J. W. ROGERS, Moderator.

WM. RANDOLPH, Clerk.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

	CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE	Sab. of Meeting.	Baptized.	Rec'ved by Letter	Dis. by Letter.	Excluded.	Restored.	Deceased.	Total Membership	Pastor's Salary.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Minute Fund.	Assoc'nal Fund.	Ministerial Education.	Indg. Min. Fund.
FIRST DISTRICT.	Bethabara	J. W. Rogers	Toledo.	4	1	..	2	..	..	..	17	$25 50	$ 2 00	$ 2 00	$ 2 00	$ 1 25	$ 1 25	$ 2 00	$ 3 25
	Zion	H. A. Key	Wilmington	1	..	..	3	2	..	1	49					1 50	1 00		
	Mount Zion	L. B. Harbin	Lewiston	2	..	2	..	1	..	1	20					1 00	50		
	Pleasant Grove	Wm. Randolph	Loss Creek	2	..	2	2	..	..	2	126					2 50	2 00		
	Providence	J. R. Sartain	York.	3	..	..	..	5	..	1	75					1 50	1 00		
	Pleasant Field	H. A. Key	Jasper	2	5	3	..	..	..	..	33					1 00	25		
	New River	A. A. Smith	Dublin	1	..	5	..	..	..	..	31					1 20	50		
	Pleasant Grove	E. T. Akin	Ballard	3	18	4	1	1	2	..	57					1 00	50		
	Oregonia	J. W. Rogers		2	12	..	1	..	..	1	29	75 00				2 00	3 00		
	Lebanon	L. B. Harbin	Lewiston	3	..	2	2	4	2	1	44					1 50	50		
	Bethel	" " "	Leled Lane	4	2	3	..	1	..	2	17					1 00			
	Bethlehem	J. W. Rogers	Toledo.	1	..	3	1	3	..	3	39	50 00				1 25	1 00		
	Macedonia	E. T. Akin	Eldridge	2	1	1	8	..	..	1	78					1 00	50		
	Salem	Not represented																	
	New Hope																		
	Mount Joy	J. W. Rogers	Toledo	2	..	1	2	..	..	5	47					1 25	1 75		
SECOND DISTRICT.	New Prospect	W. P. Smith	Jasper	1	8	8	4	2	1	..	40	25 00				1 50	50		
	Freewill	A. White	Toad Vine	..	8	1	..	..	..	..	28					85	75		
	Mount Olive	L. Williams	Bartonville	1	..	1	..	2	1	1	39					1 00	35		
	Hopewell	A. White	Toad Vine	4	15	1	2	..	..	1	63					1 00	1 00		
	Jasper	J. W. Rogers	Jasper	4	..	3	6	1	..	..	47				5 00	2 00	3 00		
	Antioch	J. R. Sartain	Hewitt	2	4	1	2	2	..	..	54					2 00	50		
	Samaria	L. Williams	Jasper	3	1	1	1	3	1	1	79		2 00	1 00	2 50	2 50	4 50		
	Spring Hill	R. Colburn	Eldridge	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	17					1 20			
	Liberty Grove	W. P. Smith	Lucky	3	5	..	2	2	1	1	52					1 50	50		
	Hephzibah	" " "	Lowell	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	31					1 00	25		
	Friendship	" " "	Leith								34					50	1 00		
	Bethany	" " "	Holly Grove	4	3	1	5	..	..	..	45					1 40	50		
	Mount Carmel	Not represented																	

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